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gone much below the anticipated revenue, will the Government be pleased to give the boards a lead in the matter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"The complaint is that the licence fees now charged combined with the tax under the Motor Vehicles Taxation are very high and have driven a number of buses off the road. If in any particular district, the licence fees are very low, and if the district board moves in the matter, the Government will consider any proposal to raise the fees on its merits. But it is entirely a matter for the district board to move and satisfy the Government that the raising of the rates is necessary and justifiable."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to amend the Act fixing a minimum and a maximum?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"That question is under consideration and there is also a Bill given notice of in which the matter will be considered."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether a sum of 3 to 4 lakhs is due to the Corporation of Madras in respect of this provincial tax?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"It is being paid in instalments."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"When is the last instalment going to be paid to the Corporation?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"As soon as the amount is collected, and the division is made among the local bodies."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know the number of instalments paid so far out of the tax to the local bodies?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"The instalments for 1931-32 have been paid."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"Is it not that only two instalments were paid and not others and on that account the local bodies and municipalities are suffering?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"What has been collected for 1931-32 has been paid."

Condition of motor transport in the Presidency.

* 62 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount of provincial tax due from motor vehicles for the year 1931–32 and the amount actually collected in 1931–32;

(*b*) the number of motor vehicles that were plying for hire at the beginning of 1931–32 and their number at the present time; and

(*c*) whether any enquiry has been made regarding the plight of motor transport business in the several districts of this province?

A.—(*a*) It is not possible to specify the total amount of tax due in 1931–32 since a number of motor vehicles which appeared in the registers had in fact gone off the roads altogether. The amount of tax actually collected in the year was Rs. 29,69,073.

(*b*) The number at the beginning of 1931–32 was 4,172 and that in the first quarter of 1932–33 about 2,700.

(*c*) No enquiry has been made but the Government have received representations on the subject.

Number of motor vehicles licensed during 1931–32 *and the income therefrom.*

* 63 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar: " Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(i) the number of (*a*) buses, (*b*) lorries, (*c*) motor cars, and (*d*) motor cycles licensed during the year 1931–32 in each district;

(ii) the amount of provincial tax derived by the Government by the licensing of the said vehicles; and

(iii) the cost of collection of the taxes?

A.—(i) A statement [a] is appended.

(ii) Rupees 29,69,073.

(iii) Rupees 48,919.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know the number of lorries, including buses, owned by the Police department? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" I cannot answer that now, Sir."

Public Health

Disposal of the Cinema projectors, etc., of the Temperance Propaganda Committees, now defunct.

* 64 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the cinema projectors, magic lanterns and slides belonging to the late Temperance Propaganda Committees were given free to any of the local boards, and if so, to which of them; and

(*b*) whether the Government have declined to sanction the free supply of a cinema projector to the South Kanara District Board or the Puttur Taluk Board ?

A.—(*a*) One cinema projector (inclusive of a generator and battery), one magic lantern and three sets of slides were given to each of the district boards of Coimbatore, Chittoor, Guntur, Salem and Tanjore.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know why the five districts have been specially favoured ? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 244 infra.